(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Central Vigilance Committee (CVC), set up by Hon'ble Supreme Court in the context of Writ Petition no. 196/2001 to study functioning of Targeted Public Distribution System, submitted its report on TPDS in Delhi to Supreme Court in August 2007. In the report, the Committee has inferred that majority of Above Poverty Line (APL) allocation issued to Delhi Government gets diverted. The Committee recommended that the APL category be abolished and the income limit of Below Poverty Line (BPL) category be raised. The report was sent to Delhi Government for action.

Government has issued directions to State Governments to streamline functioning of TPDS by enforcing provisions of the PDS (Control) Order, 2001 and to implement Nine-Point action plan which includes, *inter-alia,* use of information technology, display of fair price shop-wise and district wise allocations of PDS commodities on web-sites for public scrutiny, creating awareness among public about PDS operations and training Vigilance Committees on intricacies of PDS operations.

Functioning of C.G.H.S.

*109. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) subscriptions have been increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether services of CGHS have deteriorated considerably;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether CGHS provides medicines as prescribed by specialists; and

(f) if not, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes. The subscription rates for CGHS were revised on 20th May, 2009, *as per* details in the table below:

S.No.	Grade pay drawn by the officer	Contribution (Rs. Per month)
1.	Upto Rs.1,650 per month	50/-
2.	Rs.1,800/-; Rs.1,900/-; Rs.2,000/-; Rs.2,400/-; and Rs.2,800/- per month	125/-
3.	Rs. 4,200/- month	225/-
4.	Rs.4,600/-; Rs.4,800/-; Rs.5,400/-; and Rs.6,600/- per month	325/-
5.	Rs.7,600/- and above per month	500/-

(c) No.

(d) In view of reply to (c) above, question does not arise.

(e) Yes.

(f) In view of reply to (e) above, question does not arise.

Special quota of sugar for Kerala

*110. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:
SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has asked for special quota of sugar from the Union Government to bring down the spiraling price of sugar in the open market; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Central Government has not received any request from the Government of Kerala for special quota of sugar for the purpose of bringing down the price of sugar in the open market. However, the Government of Kerala had requested for additional allocation of 5000 M.Ts of levy sugar in the month of February, 2008 for Attukkal Ponkala festival which was fully agreed to. The State Government again requested for 7100 M.Ts of sugar in the month of August, 2008 as Onam gift to the State which was partially acceded to and 3500 M.Ts of sugar was allotted as additional festival quota. This was in addition to their normal annual festival quota of 3600 M.Ts of levy sugar.

The State Government further requested for additional allocation of 10000 M.Ts of sugar in November, 2008 for Bakrid and Christmas festivals. Due to low availability of levy sugar in 2008-09 sugar season on account of trends of lower production in the season, the same was not acceded to. The State Government has again requested in June, 2009 for additional allocation of 14000 M.Ts of sugar for festival seasons in Kerala. It is not possible for the Central Government to agree to the request for additional allocation of festival quota due to lower sugar production in 2008-09 sugar season which limits the overall availability of levy sugar.

Package to SMEs to cope with economic recession

*111. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:†
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the small and medium enterprises of the country are also hit by international recession;

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi